

Study of Ephesians – Ephesians 2:1-10 Bellevue Church of Christ – Spring & Summer 2013

Two things they once followed..

I. Dead in Sins (1-3)

Resumes the second person of 1:13, 15-18 and anticipates v. 11 ("you Gentiles in the flesh")

(1) Course of this World

- *Course = αἰών (aiōn)
- Literally "Age"
- *World = κόσμος (kosmos)
- 1Cor 3:18-19

1 **And you were dead in the trespasses and sins**

Two ways to say the same thing (Col 2:13)

2 in which **you once walked**, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience—

Jews were no better off than the Gentiles

3 among whom **we all** once lived in the passions of **our flesh**, carrying out the desires of **the body** and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind.

Rom 7:7-25

(2) Prince of the Power of the Air

- *Refers to the devil
- John 14:30; 16:11
- 1Cor 2:12
- Eph 4:27; 6:11,16

All are guilty of sin and worthy of death

Why is this realization so critical?

Rom 1:18-3:20

Rom 3:21

4 **But God**, being **rich in mercy**, because of the **great love** with which he loved us,

Rom 5:6-11

5 **even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—**

Rom 8:14-17

Rom 6:4-11; Col 2:12

6 and **raised us up with him** and **seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus**,

7 so that in the coming ages **he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus**.

Rom 3:21-26

8 For by **grace** you have been saved **through faith**. And this is **not your own doing**; it is the **gift of God**,

Rom 3:27-31

9 **not a result of works**, so that **no one may boast**.

James 2:14-26

10 For we are **his workmanship**, created in **Christ Jesus for good works**, which **God prepared beforehand**, that we should walk in them.

But God...

Rescued us from certain death...

What:

All three verbs begin with "ou" (sy) in the original language

- *Made us Alive (5)
- *Raised us Up (6)
- *Seated us with Him (6)

Why:

- *Rich in Mercy (4)
- *Great Love (4)
- *He might Show...Grace (7)

How:

- *In Christ Jesus (6,7,10)
- *By Grace through Faith (8)

II. Alive in Christ (4-10)

Seated at the Right Hand of God

- Eph 1:20-21
- Psa 110:1
- Mark 16:19
- Luke 22:69
- Acts 2:33; 5:31
- Rom 8:34
- Col 3:1-4
- Heb 1:3; 8:1; 10:12; 12:2
- 1Pe 3:22

God Prepared Beforehand

God determined the steps we "should walk in" to receive his grace before the beginning of the world

- Eph 1:3-5
- Act 2:23
- Rom 3:21; 8:29-30; 9
- 2Th 2:13
- 1Pe 1:18-21

Faith in Christ makes it possible to receive salvation by God's grace, and will naturally result in "good works," but does not in any way cause us to earn our salvation.

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Second Person

Ephesians 1:13 (ESV)

¹³ In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit,

Ephesians 1:15–18 (ESV)

¹⁵ For this reason, because I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, ¹⁶ I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers, ¹⁷ that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of him, ¹⁸ having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints,

All are Guilty

Romans 1:32 (ESV)

³² Though they know God’s righteous decree that those who practice such things deserve to die, they not only do them but give approval to those who practice them.

Romans 2:1 (ESV)

¹ Therefore you have no excuse, O man, every one of you who judges. For in passing judgment on another you condemn yourself, because you, the judge, practice the very same things.

Romans 3:9 (ESV)

⁹ What then? Are we Jews any better off? No, not at all. For we have already charged that all, both Jews and Greeks, are under sin,

Romans 3:19–20 (ESV)

¹⁹ Now we know that whatever the law says it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be stopped, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. ²⁰ For by works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin.

Dead in Trespasses

Colossians 2:13–14 (ESV)

¹³ And you, who were dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made alive together with him, having forgiven us all our trespasses, ¹⁴ by canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This he set aside, nailing it to the cross.

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Course of this World

Course = Age

172 αἰών (*aiōn*), ὥνος (*ōnos*), ὁ (*ho*): n.masc.; ≡ DBLHebr 6409; Str 165; TDNT 1.197—**1.** LN 67.143 **era**, a unit of time as a particular stage of history (Mt 12:32); **2.** LN 1.2 **universe** (Heb 1:2); **3.** LN 41.38 **world system**, practices and standards of those without God (1Co 3:18); **4.** LN 67.25 **long ago** (Lk 1:70); **5.** LN 67.95 **forever**, eternal, without end (Rev 22:5); **6.** LN 12.24 ὁ θεὸς τοῦ αἰῶνος τούτου (*ho theos tou aiōnos toutou*), the Devil, formally, the god of this world (2Co 4:4); **7.** LN 11.16 **non-religious people** (Lk 16:8), note: for a fuller treatment see LN Index¹

165. αἰών αἰὼν; from a prim. root appar. mean. *continued duration; a space of time, an age*:—age(20), ages(6), ancient time(1), beginning of time(1), course(1), eternal(2), eternity(1), ever*(2), forever(27), forever and ever(20), forevermore(2), long ago(1), never*(1), old(1), time(1), world(7), worlds(1).²

World = Cosmos

3180 κόσμος (*kosmos*), οὐ (*ou*), ὁ (*ho*): n.masc.; ≡ Str 2889; TDNT 3.868—**1.** LN 1.1 **universe**, as an ordered structure (Ac 17:24); **2.** LN 1.39 **earth**, the surface of the earth, where mankind dwells (Mt 4:8; Mk 16:15 v.r.); **3.** LN 41.38 **world system**, godless world standards (Gal 6:14); **4.** LN 9.23 **people**, those estranged from God (1Co 6:2); **5.** LN 79.12 **adorning** (1Pe 3:3), for another interp, see next; **6.** LN 6.188 **adornment**, an object which adorns (1Pe 3:3); for another interp, see prior; **7.** LN 59.55 **tremendous amount**, figurative extension (Jas 3:6); **8.** LN 12.44 αἰὼν τοῦ κόσμου τούτου (*aiōn tou kosmou toutou*), supernatural power (Eph 2:2)³

2889. κόσμος kosmos; a prim. word; *order, the world*:—adornment(1), world(184), world's(1).⁴

1 Corinthians 3:18–19 (ESV)

¹⁸ Let no one deceive himself. If anyone among you thinks that he is wise in this age, let him become a fool that he may become wise. ¹⁹ For the wisdom of this world is folly with God. For it is written, “He catches the wise in their craftiness,”

Prince of the Power of the Air

John 14:30 (ESV)

³⁰ I will no longer talk much with you, for the ruler of this world is coming. He has no claim on me,

¹ Swanson, J. (1997). *Dictionary of Biblical Languages with Semantic Domains: Greek (New Testament)* (electronic ed.). Oak Harbor: Logos Research Systems, Inc.

² Thomas, R. L. (1998). *New American Standard Hebrew-Aramaic and Greek dictionaries : Updated edition*. Anaheim: Foundation Publications, Inc.

³ Swanson, J. (1997). *Dictionary of Biblical Languages with Semantic Domains: Greek (New Testament)* (electronic ed.). Oak Harbor: Logos Research Systems, Inc.

⁴ Thomas, R. L. (1998). *New American Standard Hebrew-Aramaic and Greek dictionaries : Updated edition*. Anaheim: Foundation Publications, Inc.

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John 16:11 (ESV)

¹¹ concerning judgment, because the ruler of this world is judged.

1 Corinthians 2:12 (ESV)

¹² Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might understand the things freely given us by God.

Ephesians 4:27 (ESV)

²⁷ and give no opportunity to the devil.

Ephesians 6:11 (ESV)

¹¹ Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil.

Ephesians 6:16 (ESV)

¹⁶ In all circumstances take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming darts of the evil one;

We All – Passions of our Flesh

Romans 7:7–25 (ESV)

⁷ What then shall we say? That the law is sin? By no means! Yet if it had not been for the law, I would not have known sin. For I would not have known what it is to covet if the law had not said, “You shall not covet.” ⁸ But sin, seizing an opportunity through the commandment, produced in me all kinds of covetousness. For apart from the law, sin lies dead. ⁹ I was once alive apart from the law, but when the commandment came, sin came alive and I died. ¹⁰ The very commandment that promised life proved to be death to me. ¹¹ For sin, seizing an opportunity through the commandment, deceived me and through it killed me. ¹² So the law is holy, and the commandment is holy and righteous and good.

¹³ Did that which is good, then, bring death to me? By no means! It was sin, producing death in me through what is good, in order that sin might be shown to be sin, and through the commandment might become sinful beyond measure. ¹⁴ For we know that the law is spiritual, but I am of the flesh, sold under sin. ¹⁵ For I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. ¹⁶ Now if I do what I do not want, I agree with the law, that it is good. ¹⁷ So now it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells within me. ¹⁸ For I know that nothing good dwells in me, that is, in my flesh. For I have the desire to do what is right, but not the ability to carry it out. ¹⁹ For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I keep on doing. ²⁰ Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells within me.

²¹ So I find it to be a law that when I want to do right, evil lies close at hand. ²² For I delight in the law of God, in my inner being, ²³ but I see in my members another law waging war against the law of my mind and making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. ²⁴ Wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death? ²⁵ Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, I myself serve the law of God with my mind, but with my flesh I serve the law of sin.

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But God

Romans 3:21 (ESV)

²¹ **But now** the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it—

God’s Love → Even When

Romans 5:6–11 (ESV)

⁶ For while we were **still weak**, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷ For one will scarcely die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die— ⁸ but God shows his love for us in that while we were **still sinners**, Christ died for us. ⁹ Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God. ¹⁰ For if while we **were enemies** we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life. ¹¹ More than that, we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

But God - What

All three verbs begin with “συ” (sy) in the original language

- **Made** us Alive:

5188 συζωοποιέω (*syzōpoieō*): vb.; ≡ Str 4806; TDNT 7.787—LN 23.95 **raise to life with**, make alive with (Eph 2:5; Col 2:13+)⁵

4806. συζωοποιέω *suzōpoieō*; from 4862 and 2227; *to make alive together with*:—alive together(2), made ... alive together(2).⁶

- **Raised** us Up:

5283 συνεγείρω (*synegeirō*): vb.; ≡ Str 4891; TDNT 7.786—LN 23.95 **raise to life with** (Eph 2:6; Col 2:12; 3:1+)⁷

4891. συνεγείρω *sunegeirō*; from 4862 and 1453; *to raise together*:—raised(3).⁸

⁵ Swanson, J. (1997). *Dictionary of Biblical Languages with Semantic Domains: Greek (New Testament)* (electronic ed.). Oak Harbor: Logos Research Systems, Inc.

⁶ Thomas, R. L. (1998). *New American Standard Hebrew-Aramaic and Greek dictionaries : Updated edition*. Anaheim: Foundation Publications, Inc.

⁷ Swanson, J. (1997). *Dictionary of Biblical Languages with Semantic Domains: Greek (New Testament)* (electronic ed.). Oak Harbor: Logos Research Systems, Inc.

⁸ Thomas, R. L. (1998). *New American Standard Hebrew-Aramaic and Greek dictionaries : Updated edition*. Anaheim: Foundation Publications, Inc.

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Romans 6:4–11 (ESV)

⁴ We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life. ⁵ For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. ⁶ We know that our old self was crucified with him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin. ⁷ For one who has died has been set free from sin. ⁸ Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. ⁹ We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. ¹⁰ For the death he died he died to sin, once for all, but the life he lives he lives to God. ¹¹ So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

Colossians 2:12 (ESV)

¹² having been buried with him in baptism, in which you were also **raised with him** through faith in the powerful working of God, who raised him from the dead.

- **Seated** us With:

5154 συγκαθίζω (*sygkathizō*): vb.; ≡ Str 4776—**1.** LN 17.13 **sit down with**, be seated together (Lk 22:55+); **2.** LN 17.18 **cause to sit down with**, cause to be seated with (Eph 2:6+)⁹

4776. **συγκαθίζω sugkathizō**; from 4862 and 2523; *to make to sit together, to sit together*:—sat down together(1), seated(1).¹⁰

Right Hand of God

Ephesians 1:20–21 (ESV)

²⁰ that he worked in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, ²¹ far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come.

Psalms 110:1 (ESV)

¹ The Lord says to my Lord: “Sit at my right hand, until I make your enemies your footstool.”

Mark 16:19 (ESV)

¹⁹ So then the Lord Jesus, after he had spoken to them, was taken up into heaven and sat down at the right hand of God.

Luke 22:69 (ESV)

⁶⁹ But from now on the Son of Man shall be seated at the right hand of the power of God.”

⁹ Swanson, J. (1997). *Dictionary of Biblical Languages with Semantic Domains: Greek (New Testament)* (electronic ed.). Oak Harbor: Logos Research Systems, Inc.

¹⁰ Thomas, R. L. (1998). *New American Standard Hebrew-Aramaic and Greek dictionaries : Updated edition*. Anaheim: Foundation Publications, Inc.

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Acts 2:33 (ESV)

³³ Being therefore exalted at the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, he has poured out this that you yourselves are seeing and hearing.

Acts 5:31 (ESV)

³¹ God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior, to give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins.

Romans 8:34 (ESV)

³⁴ Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us.

Colossians 3:1 (ESV)

¹ If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God.

Hebrews 1:3 (ESV)

³ He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power. After making purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high,

Hebrews 8:1 (ESV)

¹ Now the point in what we are saying is this: we have such a high priest, one who is seated at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in heaven,

Hebrews 10:12 (ESV)

¹² But when Christ had offered for all time a single sacrifice for sins, he sat down at the right hand of God,

Hebrews 12:2 (ESV)

² looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

1 Peter 3:22 (ESV)

²² who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers having been subjected to him.

With Him

Romans 8:14–17 (ESV)

¹⁴ For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. ¹⁵ For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, “Abba! Father!” ¹⁶ The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷ and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.

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Through Faith

Romans 3:21–26 (ESV)

²¹ But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it— ²² the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction: ²³ for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, ²⁴ and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵ whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith. This was to show God’s righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins. ²⁶ It was to show his righteousness at the present time, so that he might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.

Boasting

Romans 3:27–31 (ESV)

²⁷ Then what becomes of our boasting? It is excluded. By what kind of law? By a law of works? No, but by the law of faith. ²⁸ For we hold that one is justified by faith apart from works of the law. ²⁹ Or is God the God of Jews only? Is he not the God of Gentiles also? Yes, of Gentiles also, ³⁰ since God is one—who will justify the circumcised by faith and the uncircumcised through faith. ³¹ Do we then overthrow the law by this faith? By no means! On the contrary, we uphold the law.

Good Works

James 2:14–26 (ESV)

¹⁴ What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can that faith save him? ¹⁵ If a brother or sister is poorly clothed and lacking in daily food, ¹⁶ and one of you says to them, “Go in peace, be warmed and filled,” without giving them the things needed for the body, what good is that? ¹⁷ So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead. ¹⁸ But someone will say, “You have faith and I have works.” Show me your faith apart from your works, and I will show you my faith by my works. ¹⁹ You believe that God is one; you do well. Even the demons believe—and shudder! ²⁰ Do you want to be shown, you foolish person, that faith apart from works is useless? ²¹ Was not Abraham our father justified by works when he offered up his son Isaac on the altar? ²² You see that faith was active along with his works, and faith was completed by his works; ²³ and the Scripture was fulfilled that says, “Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness”—and he was called a friend of God. ²⁴ You see that a person is justified by works and not by faith alone. ²⁵ And in the same way was not also Rahab the prostitute justified by works when she received the messengers and sent them out by another way? ²⁶ For as the body apart from the spirit is dead, so also faith apart from works is dead.

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Prepare Beforehand

Acts 2:23 (ESV)

²³ this Jesus, delivered up according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of lawless men.

Romans 3:21 (ESV)

²¹ But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it—

Romans 8:29–30 (ESV)

²⁹ For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. ³⁰ And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified.

Romans 9 (ESV)

¹ I am speaking the truth in Christ—I am not lying; my conscience bears me witness in the Holy Spirit— ² that I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart. ³ For I could wish that I myself were accursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my brothers, my kinsmen according to the flesh. ⁴ They are Israelites, and to them belong the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the worship, and the promises. ⁵ To them belong the patriarchs, and from their race, according to the flesh, is the Christ, who is God over all, blessed forever. Amen. ⁶ But it is not as though the word of God has failed. For not all who are descended from Israel belong to Israel, ⁷ and not all are children of Abraham because they are his offspring, but “Through Isaac shall your offspring be named.” ⁸ This means that it is not the children of the flesh who are the children of God, but the children of the promise are counted as offspring. ⁹ For this is what the promise said: “About this time next year I will return, and Sarah shall have a son.” ¹⁰ And not only so, but also when Rebekah had conceived children by one man, our forefather Isaac, ¹¹ though they were not yet born and had done nothing either good or bad—in order that God’s purpose of election might continue, not because of works but because of him who calls— ¹² she was told, “The older will serve the younger.” ¹³ As it is written, “Jacob I loved, but Esau I hated.” ¹⁴ What shall we say then? Is there injustice on God’s part? By no means! ¹⁵ For he says to Moses, “I will have mercy on whom I have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I have compassion.” ¹⁶ So then it depends not on human will or exertion, but on God, who has mercy. ¹⁷ For the Scripture says to Pharaoh, “For this very purpose I have raised you up, that I might show my power in you, and that my name might be proclaimed in all the earth.” ¹⁸ So then he has mercy on whomever he wills, and he hardens whomever he wills. ¹⁹ You will say to me then, “Why does he still find fault? For who can resist his will?” ²⁰ But who are you, O man, to answer back to God? Will what is molded say to its molder, “Why have you made me like this?” ²¹ Has the potter no right over the clay, to make out of the same lump one vessel for honorable use and another for dishonorable use? ²² What if God, desiring to show his wrath and to make known his power, has endured with much patience vessels of wrath prepared for destruction, ²³ in order to make known the riches of his glory for vessels of mercy, which he has prepared beforehand for glory— ²⁴ even us whom he has called, not from the Jews only but also from the Gentiles? ²⁵ As indeed he says in Hosea, “Those who were not my people I will call ‘my people,’ and her who was not beloved I will call ‘beloved.’ ” ²⁶ “And in the very place where it was said to them, ‘You are not my people,’ there they will be called ‘sons of the living God.’ ” ²⁷ And Isaiah

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cries out concerning Israel: “Though the number of the sons of Israel be as the sand of the sea, only a remnant of them will be saved, ²⁸ for the Lord will carry out his sentence upon the earth fully and without delay.” ²⁹ And as Isaiah predicted, “If the Lord of hosts had not left us offspring, we would have been like Sodom and become like Gomorrah.” ³⁰ What shall we say, then? That Gentiles who did not pursue righteousness have attained it, that is, a righteousness that is by faith; ³¹ but that Israel who pursued a law that would lead to righteousness did not succeed in reaching that law. ³² Why? Because they did not pursue it by faith, but as if it were based on works. They have stumbled over the stumbling stone, ³³ as it is written, “Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone of stumbling, and a rock of offense; and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.”

1 Peter 1:18–21 (ESV)

¹⁸ knowing that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your forefathers, not with perishable things such as silver or gold, ¹⁹ but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot. ²⁰ He was foreknown before the foundation of the world but was made manifest in the last times for the sake of you ²¹ who through him are believers in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God.